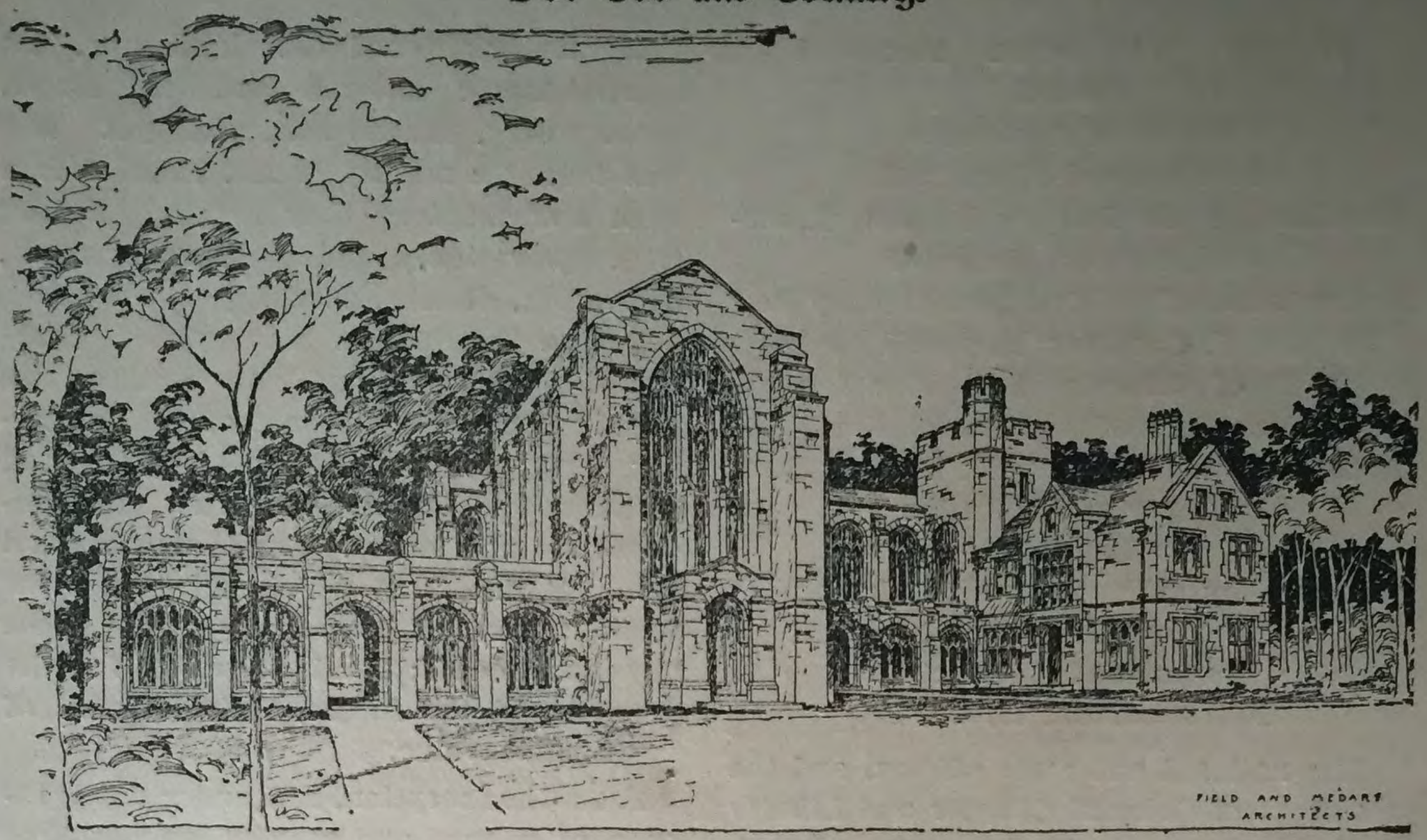
"For God and Country."



Cloister of the Colonies. Washington Memorial Chapel. Patriots' Hall. Tower and Rectory.

"No spot on earth—not the plains of Marathon, nor the passes of Sempach, nor the place of the Bastile, nor the dykes of Holland, nor the moors of England—is so sacred in the history of the struggle for human liberty as Valley Forge."

—CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY.

The Washington Chapel Chronicle

Valley Forge.

A RECORD OF RELIGION AND PATRIOTISM.

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The Daughters of the Revolution at Valley Forge.

Presentation of the Washington Memorial Door and the Continental Navy Pew.

The Daughters of the Revolution visited Valley Forge on Friday, May 13, and took part in the dedication of the Washington Memorial Door and the Continental Navy Pew. The day was ideal, and the arrangements had been so carefully made by Mrs. Robert Heberton and the other members of the Committee that everything through out the day ministered to the enjoyment of the pilgrims.

The following was the program:

PROGRAM.

Invocation by Rev. W. Herbert Burk

Unveiling of the Washington Memorial Door by Edith Keay and Louise Harding

Presentation of the Door by Mrs. V. Gilpin Robinson on Behalf of the Colonial Chapter, Daughters of the Revolution

Acceptance of the Door by Rev. W. Herbert Burk, B. D., Minister in Charge

of the Washington Memorial Chapel
Prayer of Dedication
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Unveiling of the Pew by Cassius Ramsdell, Clement Ramsdell
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Prayers and Benediction
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The national and state officers, and the members of Colonial Chapter and Liberty Bell Chapters met in the parish house, where the Rev. Francis T. H. Finn offered the opening prayer. The procession having been formed in the order mentioned proceeded to the front of the chapel, where Miss Edith Keay and Miss Louise Harding unveiled the beautiful door.

Mrs. V. Gilpin Robinson, Regent of the Chapter, presented the Door in the following words:

Upon this hallowed spot, so justly endeared to every true and patriotic citizen of our country, we meet to-day, to do further honor to one of the most important epochs of our nation's history.

At Valley Forge, during the winter of 1777 and '78, was achieved a victory, second to none in the war of the Revolution. The scenes then witnessed by these silent, snow clad hills, constituted a crucial, and the pivotal period in our long struggle for independence.

From the list of battles, so valiantly fought and won, we must perhaps exclude the name of Valley Forge, and yet with a few words of qualification, we might well include it. For here was really waged a noble and decisive warfare.

No impressive surrender was made at Valley Forge; no blare of trumpets, nor clash of arms were heard, no glittering uniforms brightened the landscape, no martial music cheered and encouraged those weary, unshod feet, and yet here was fought a mighty battle. Face to face with sternest foes they fought, battling with privation, cold, discouragement, starvation, disease, death.

To the indomitable bravery and courage of Washington and his associates was mainly due the continence of that suffering army; to their heroic struggle and endurance is largely due the independence we now enjoy. For it was a cruel test, but one from which our men went forth to win. It is well to revere those days and deeds; well to mark for the present and the future, their lessons of inestimable value.

From the inception, and under the guidance of a true and worthy patriot, has arisen, so far, this noble edifice, and it has been the esteemed privilege of the Chapter which I represent, to contribute the Washington Memorial Door. May its portals swing wide to admit every true and loyal citizen to show here his love of God and love of country. May the door to this sacred building truly symbolize the entrance into a state of reverence and loyalty. May it shut out all that is unworthy of this place and that time, and be an inspiration to such noble, unselfish patriotism as we meet here to commemorate.

On behalf of the Colonial Chapter, Pennsylvania Society Daughters of the Revolution, I have the honor to present to the Reverend W. Herbert Burk, minister in charge of the Washington Memorial Chapel, its entrance door, and in handing him the key, to express to him the gratitude of all patriotic citizens for the noble work he has here achieved.

The Door was accepted by the Rev. W. Herbert Burk on behalf of the Washington Memorial Chapel, and, as he said, "on behalf of the Nation, for the gift was of such significance that it was of national importance." In his words of appreciation he spoke of the meaning of the armorial

bearings with which the Door is adorned.

The prayer of dedication was offered by Mr. Burk as follows:

"Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, Who through thy Son Jesus Christ hast opened to us the Door of Salvation; and in this land hast opened to all peoples of the earth the Door of Opportunity: with reverent gratitude for these thy blessings, we, thine unworthy servants, beseech Thee to accept this gift and to bless it. Grant that it may open always in welcome to thy children of every race and condition; that those who enter this, thy House, may find Thee and thy blessing; and that all who go forth may enter upon the service of Thee and this nation, with nobler purpose and deeper consecration, to thy great glory and our people's welfare; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

At the conclusion of the prayer the door was opened and the choristers, led by Miss Nina K. Pugh, entered the Chapel singing the processional hymn. The organist was Miss Mary S. Stephens. The choir was followed by the speakers and J. P. Hale Jenkins, Esq., representing the Valley Forge Park Commission; the National Officers, the State Officers, Colonial Chapter, Liberty Bell Chapter, members and guests.

The Continental Navy Pew is next to the font. This had been elaborately decorated with flags, including that of the Navy, and the blue and buff, the colors of the Daughters of the Revolution. The speech of presentation was made by the Regent of Liberty Bell Chapter, Mrs. J. Gardiner Ramsdell, as follows:

It seemeth good to be here.

We are here "Lest we forget."

We are here to do reverence to the memories of ancestors, whose heroic deeds we hold as a precious heirloom in trust to be passed to our children.

To reverence the example they set us, is to help the world grow better, as we commemorate, is to uplift, and will continue to uplift, until "Man's inhumanity to man" has become a relic of the dark ages.

Some ruthless hand of late has attempted to pull down our idols, by publishing their frailities, which only proves that they were mortal, with an overmastering desire to grow better, and to leave those who follow, a heritage to cherish, and cultivate.

Small wonder that the florescence of their planting, grows in exotic splendor, exhaling a fragrance grateful to the senses, while the seed of their faults shrivels in barren soil unwatered by the tears shed for their sufferings. Conscious of the fact that the heroism of the men, who more than a century ago, thrilled the world with examples of American seamanship, is reflected to-day in their successors, we dedicate this pew as a memento of our reverence for the dead, our pride and hope in the living.

During the address the Pew was unveiled by Cassius Ramsdell and Clement Ramsdell. It was accepted on behalf of the Chapel by the Rev. Mr. Burk, who used the following prayer of dedication:

"Almighty and everlasting God, in whose hand are all the nations of the earth; we bless thy holy Name for all those thy servants, who, obedient to thy call, did give themselves to do thy will in the building of a new nation in this western land; and especially we thank thee for thy gracious providence toward those who on the great deep, mid storm and strife, looked to Thee for protection and victory. And now, O Lord, accept this memorial of thy gracious favor to this thy people, and grant that it may always awaken heartfelt praise for thy great mercies and glorious victories vouchsafed unto us, and that it may make thy servants show forth their praise not only with their lips, but in their lives, by giving themselves to thy service, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

After all present had united in singing "America," Mrs. Nathaniel S. Keay, with a few well chosen words of appreciation,

introduced the Hon. Irving P. Wanger, Member of Congress.

Mr. Wanger is a devoted friend of Valley Forge, and for years has labored to have it receive the honor and reverence which its place in American history demands. The announcement of the action of the Senate Committee on the Library in increasing the amount for a monument from $50,000 for two arches to $100,000 for one arch would have brought forth cheers from those present had they not been restrained by the reverence for the House of Prayer. Mr. Wanger introduced the bill which was thus amended.

MR. WANGER'S ADDRESS.

The Daughters of the Revolution in the erection in 1901 of the Waterman Monument,

> "To the Soldiers of Washington's Army who sleep at Valley Forge 1777-1778."

and in the reproduction in 1905 by the erection on the original site by The Colonial Chapter of Philadelphria of,

> "One of the huts occupied by the Soldiers of Washington's Camp during the winter of 1777-1778,"

inaugurated and continued two important features incident to the Pennsylvania Valley Forge Park which are to-day happily supplemented by the ceremonies of the presentation of the Carved Entrance Door of Washington Memorial Chapel by The Colonial Chapter and the presentation of the Pew dedicated to the Seamen of the Revolution by The Liberty Bell Chapter, also of the Pennsylvania Society, in the presence among others of the principal officers and representatives of more than seventeen State Societies of the Daughters of the Revolution.

The beauty of these several gifts and their enduring character are only less significant than the lofty function they fulfil, and all who cherish the memory of Valley Forge are debtors to these patriotic associations and gratefully acknowledge the obligation. It is an honor for us to be here to voice our thanks and those of millions of our countrymen who are no less appreciative than ourselves for such substantial additions to the adornment of the encampment grounds for, may we not reverently say, the holiest of purposes. The great aid given by women to the success of many of the grandest movements for the benefit of mankind is here repeated by the Daughters of the Revolution in the placing of proper memorials in and about this, the most important camp of our country,—even of the world.

The significance of this great historic landmark has been so often told by orators and writers, including one of the great Presidents of our country, that reference to it partakes of repetition.

The eloquence of the late Henry Armitt Brown at the centennial of the conclusion of the encampment gives to us a vivid picture of what was endured and achieved at Valley Forge in the winter of 1777-1778, and as President Roosevelt almost on this spot said:

"Here at Valley Forge, Washington and his Continentals warred, not against foreign soldiery, but against themselves; against all the appeals of our nature that are most difficult to resist; against discouragement, discontent, the mean envies and jealousies and heart-burnings sure to arise at any time in large bodies of men, but especially when defeat and disaster have come to them; when the soldiers who carried our national flag hnd suffered from the cold, from privation, from hardship, knowing that their foes were well housed, that things went easier with the others than they did with them; and they conquered because they had in them the spirit that made them steadfast, not only on an occasional great day, but day after day, in a life of endeavor to do their duty well."

This summary seems to embrace the achievements of Washington and his Continentals, not only during that severe winter but in their after lives, in the founding of the great republic and in its early upbuilding, and the lesson of Val-

ley Forge is of inestimable value to us in the discharge of every duty incumbent upon us as citizens of our beloved country for the promotion of the common welfare. It teaches the value and the grandeur of constant effort in a struggle or series of struggles that must be unceasingly waged to keep the right ascendant and to preserve for generations yet unborn a government of the people, by the people and for the people, the blessings of which when administered in the spirit displayed by Washington as citizen and soldier and statesman and later exemplified and illustrated by Lincoln are the rich heritage of all Americans.

In the mad race for wealth and power and prestige the equal rights of all before the law are the subject of continuing assaults, and the efforts prompted thereby and by envy and jealousy as certainly arise as they did here at Valley Forge and when we recall the conspiracy for the displacement for selfish purposes of Washington as Commander-in-Chief by the belittling of the great Virginian and the laudation of one of mediocre ability, we can understand the possibility of like vicious endeavors at any crisis in our history. The eloquent Bishop of Virginia speaking here a few years ago referred to Washington as the perfect flower of Virginian manhood and declared him to be "the crowning glory of Valley Forge"; and none will deny the justice of the encomium. But where is the panegyric of the general when it was sought to have Congress choose as Washington's successor in those crucial days of the Revolution?

The discipline established by Washington at Valley Forge with Green as Commissary General and Steuben as drillmaster and the other able commanders not only made his forces efficient but gave the Colonies a status with foreign nations of immense benefit to the cause. In winning the love and devotion of Lafayette the French alliance was helped and in the prominence of other foreign officers like Steuben and Pulaski the aid of most lovers of liberty free to wage war for the cause was secured.

Deeds and places, the fame of which goes down the centuries, in a sense require no setting and Valley Forge would be an inspiration even if unmarked, but the influence of its examples of suffering and endeavor and extreme sacrifice would be less potential if we failed to get in actual touch with it; and the Daughters of the Revolution, like the Reverend Mr. Burk, in suggesting and for seven years laboring zealously for the Washington Memorial Chapel, and like those who were active in founding and developing and conducting Valley Forge Park, have doubtless been richly blessed in what they have done, and have enjoyed a patriotic inspiration and a conception of public duty and love for their fellowmen, their country and her institutions, in a degree that would not have been possible save for those labors.

That a stately shaft should stand in commemoration of the soldiers of Washington's Army who died here, that a hut should remind us of the rude lodgement of the soldiers of the army and now that there should not only be a carved oak door through which to enter the house of God and therein be a pew dedicated to the seamen of the Revolution, bespeaks the broad thoughtfulness and generosity of the Daughters. The memorial shaft would have been an appropriate object for the State or Nation to have erected; but a chapel conducted by a single denomination could not appropriately have been erected under other or different auspices than it has been, and the completeness of Valley Forge without something which is typical of Washington as a churchman and which may be of the highest utility in disseminating the principals of christianity and developing the religious side of our natures would not have been rounded out without such edifice. May God speed it and its com-

plementary buildings to early completion.

Will not the visiting Daughters constitute themselves missionaries to help finish the chapel and Cloister of the Colonies and erect the Patriots Hall, Porch of the Allies and Tower? The Rectory will doubtless rise coincident with the others. And will not other patriotic associations join in the glorious undertaking?

The House of Representatives, some weeks ago, passed the Bill authorizing an expenditure not exceeding $50,000 for the erection of two Memorial Arches at entrances of Valley Forge Park; at a meeting of the Senate Committee on the Library, Wednesday last, the committee, without any solicitation from anybody, unanimously voted to report the bill with an amendment making the authorization $100,000 for a single Memorial Arch. There will not be much friction between the two Houses of Congress, and the outlook for a United States Memorial at Valley Forge is very bright.

The Senate provision for a single arch is suggested from the conviction that one beautiful and imposing structure, typical of the power and majesty of the United States, at some prominent historic point within the park where all visitors would observe the same, is better than the thought of the Commission of an arch for the eastern and another for the western entrances.

The Liberty Bell Chapter in the presentation of the pew has reminded us that in our admiration of the qualities typified by historic Valley Forge we should not forget the gallant coadjutors upon the seas of the army that was encamped here. The fame of John Paul Jones and of John Barry and their fellow mariners who so gallantly made immortal the fame of the small but heroic American Navy were factors for success of very high importance; and while we realize the need of an efficient navy, those of us whose calling is wholly upon land are not apt to remember as we should our debt of gratitude to those who fought in ships for national independence; and the pew this day dedicated to the seamen of the Revolution will be an apt reminder.

Let us rejoice for what has been done here by Washington and his officers and men, and since by others for the preservation in suitable condition of this revered place; and we may hope that the example of the Daughters of the Revolution will be followed by other organizations and by states and the nation until the completeness of Valley Forge Park and its accessories will be as great a matter of pride and as inspiring a place of sojourn as the ordeal of those encamped here in 1777-1778 is prominent among the great events in the world's history.

Following the service a luncheon was served by the two Chapters to their guests, the Washington Chapel Guild acting as the caterer. This feature of the day was greatly enjoyed, especially as the luncheon was served in such an attractive manner. Great regret was expressed that Mrs. Heberton was unable to be present. Her place was taken by Mrs. Perry, who looked after the comfort of the guests.

The last visit of the Daughters was in 1906, and they were greatly pleased with the wonderful improvements made in the intervening time. The Valley Forge Museum of American History was a great surprise to them, as few had an idea how this new institution had grown in the short time of its existence.

The afternoon was spent in going over the encampment. Mr. Burk accompanied the party and explained the historic associations of the various points of interest.

THE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL DOOR.

The Washington Memorial Door is one of the most handsome memorials at Valley Forge, and in another evidence of the great ability of Mr. Milton B. Medary, Jr., the architect of the Chapel, who is making all that pertains to it works of art.

The door is of oak, deeply panelled. Its lines are full of strength and dignity. A distinctive feature of the door is the use made of armorial bearings. There are seven of these across the door in the upper panels. In the center are the arms of Washington. To the right of these are the arms of the United States and Virginia and the insignia of the Daughters of the Revolution. To the left are those of the Protestant Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Virginia and the Washington Memorial Chapel. On the inner side are the Washington arms and those of the English families connected with the Washingtons by marriage.

In the upper stiles is carved the following inscription of dedication:

"To the Glory of God, our Nation's Honour, and in Memory of George Washington, this Door is given by Colonial Chapter, Pennsylvania Society, 'Daughters of the Revolution."

The strap hinges are of cast bronze, designed especially for the door. They are set on red morocco leather, which brings out the Gothic design. The lock, with the griffin handles, are beautiful specimens of metal art work.

THE CONTINENTAL NAVY PEW.

The Continental Navy Pew, one of the "Pews of the Patriots," is adorned with the seal of the Navy Department in gold and the insignia of the Daughters of the Revolution.

It bears the following inscription, engraved upon brass tablets:

To the Glory of God
and in Memory of
the Brave Seamen
who established the
American Navy
and whose heroic Services
helped to gain the
Independence of our Nation.

This Pew is given by
Liberty Bell Chapter
Pennsylvania Society
Daughters of the Revolution
May 13, 1910.

Washington Memorial Chapel,
Valley Forge, Pa.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK
MINISTER IN CHARGE,
ALL SAINTS RECTORY, NORRISTOWN.

THE REV. FRANCIS T. H. FINN
ASSISTANT,
PORT KENNEDY.

Mr. Frank Quigg, Treasurer,
Port Kennedy, Pa.

Mr. Leslie Jefferis,
Treasurer of the Building Fund,
Bridgeport, Pa.

William Rumford, Sexton.

Sundays.

2.30 P. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

3.45 P. M. Service and Sermon.

Second Sunday of the month, 10.30 A. M. Service, Sermon and Holy Communion.

Stewart Fund Hall

Sundays.

10.00 A. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

11.00 A. M. Service and Sermon.

Calendar.

MAY.

16. Monday in Whitsun-Week.
17. Tuesday in Whitsun-Week.
22. Trinity Sunday.
27. 7.30 p. m., Confirmation and Sermon.
29. First Sunday after Trinity.
    3.45 p. m., Dedication of the Presidents' Pew.
30. Memorial Day.
    11 a. m., Laying of the Corner-stone of the Defenders' Gate.

JUNE.

1. 2.30 p. m., Guild Meeting.
5. Second Sunday after Trinity.
11. St. Barnabas the Apostle.
12. Third Sunday after Trinity.

Contributions to Tea Room.

$5.00, Mrs. William Currie Wilson; one dozen lemonade glasses, Mrs. Mary Roates; ice crushed, Mrs. Charles W. Walker.

The Tea Room of the Chapel is indebted to the firm of Strawbridge & Clothier, Philadelphia, for a generous donation of tea towels and also to the firm of Anderman & Blackburn for the menu cards and other printing.

The Tea Room opened April 16th and has been well patronized every Saturday afternoon.The Guild members feel much encouraged with the success of the undertaking and hope that the friends of the Chapel will interest others in the project.

Confirmation Date Changed.

The date for the administration of the apostolic rite of Confirmation has been changed to Friday evening, May 27th. The Rt. Rev. Frederick Joseph Kinsman, D. D., will officiate. The service will be at 7.30 o'clock.

Memorial Day.

The corner-stone of the Defenders' Gate will be laid on Memorial Day, May 30, at eleven o'clock. This is a most important event, and the service will be a memorable one. The erection of this Gate is being strongly endorsed by Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic, who are also contributing to the fund for its erection.

The annual meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Convocation of Norristown met at the Church of the Saviour, Jenkintown, on April 28th. The members were most cordially welcomed and the attendance was excellent. Great interest was manifested in the Chapel and the Auxiliary pledged $50 annually for current expenses of the Chapel and made a generous contribution toward the expenses of the Chronicle. After the business meeting a most delightful address was given by Mrs. Perott, of Haverford. It is a matter of regret that every member could not have heard it. Refreshwere served by the ladies of the Auxiliary of the Church of Our Saviour.

The Chronicle year began with the April number. Several of the old subscribers have neglected renewing their subscriptions. Will you not do so as soon as pessible, in order that the mailing list may be complete and that the Chronicle may reach its friends promptly? Send name and address to Miss Emma W. Crawford, Devon, Penna.

The regular monthly meeting of the Guild was held in the Parish House on Wednesday, May 4th. The most important business before the meeting was the completion of the plans for the luncheon on May 13th. The meeting adjourned to meet in the Parish House in June.

Our Museum has been enriched by the gift of Mr. Charles Murray of what appears clearly part of a Revolutionary bayonet and a heavy old-fashioned iron buckle. Both these pieces were ploughed up on Mr. Murray's farm at the King-of-Prussia some thirty years ago and are of deep interest and value to the historian.

The Chapel is fortunate in gathering unto itself so many of these relics of the old encampment.

Mr. W. E. Montague, of Norristown, has given three 10 shilling notes, two of the issue of 1759, and one 1758. They were issued by the colony of Pennsylvania.

Miss Carrie Bolton, of Norristown, has given four of the brass buttons worn by John Hipple, of Chester county, in the War of 1812, and a pair of antique knee buckles, similar to those worn by Washington.

Mr. Augustus W. Bomberger has given one of the beautiful Washington medals in silver, known as the "Wreath" medal.